<u>Amendments to the Claims</u>

1. (Currently Amended) A decoding device for analyzing communication protocols
comprising:

a generic decoder into which a limited number of protocol descriptions are loaded, the
generic decoder <u>being</u> adapted to interpret the protocol descriptions; and

a specific decoder designed for a certain protocol description<u>, the specific decoder</u>
<u>supplementing the generic decoder in realtime, and</u> the generic and specific decoders being
reversibly connected ~~so that the generic and specific decoders may be updated separately~~.

2. (Previously Presented) The decoding device as recited in claim 1 wherein the generic
decoder comprises at least one element function that is overlaid by a corresponding element
function of the specific decoder.

3. (Previously Presented) The decoding device as recited in claim 2 wherein the one overlaid
element function is interpreted by the generic decoder.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of setting up a decoding device comprising the steps of:

provisioning a generic decoder into which a limited number of protocol descriptions
are loaded, the protocol descriptions being interpreted by the generic decoder;

provisioning a specific decoder for a certain protocol description<u>, the specific decoder</u>
<u>supplementing the generic decoder in realtime</u>; and

reversibly connecting the generic and specific decoders to form the decoding device ~~so~~
~~that the generic and specific decoders may be updated separately~~.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4 wherein the generic decoder comprises at least
one element function overlaid by a corresponding element function of the specific decoder
during connection of the generic decoding with the specific decoder.